

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

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THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

Woodstock, Vermont.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Record of the Cases of Poliomyelitis in Vermont in 1911 as Analyzed by Dr. C. S. Caverly, President of the State Board of Health—Some Suggestions by Health Officer C. W. Kidder of Woodstock.

In the quarterly bulletin of the Vermont State Board of Health issued March 1, Dr. Charles S. Caverly of Rutland, president of the board, presents an interesting study of anterior poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) in Vermont in 1911, with tables showing the distribution of cases and various facts concerning the outbreak of this much-feared disease. The first case was reported in March; the warm months, as usual, showed the largest number of cases, and Dr. Caverly's article is therefore especially timely and worthy of attention.

Records of 27 cases were obtained for the year 1911, compared with 72 cases recorded in 1910. The mortality in the state in 1910 was 14 per cent; in 1911 it was twice as great.

DISTRIBUTION OF CASES.

A marked change in the geographical distribution of the cases is noted in the past two years. In 1910 72 per cent of the cases were on the eastern side of the mountains, while last year over 81 per cent were on the western. Rutland county reported 16, 3, Addison 3, Bennington 2, Windsor 3, other counties having 1 each.

It is noted also that the first serious outbreak recorded (in 1894) occurred in the Otter Creek valley, and in the lack of exact knowledge of the infecting organism of poliomyelitis it is merely surmised that Otter Creek has something to do with the spread of the disease.

The division of the 27 cases by sex and age shows that 18 were male and 9 female, 12 patients were under 5 years of age, 4 were 5 to 10 years, 8 were 10 to 20, 2 were 20 to 30; between 30 to 40 years, 1; 40 to 50 years, none. The average age of all these cases was 10 years and 7 months; the average age of those who died was 11 years, and of those who survived 9 years 11 months.

More than half of the cases occurred in detached houses, the surrounding soil dry, and the houses stood within 50 rods of a stream or pond. Domestic animals, especially cats, horses and hens, were generally either kept by patients' families or were kept in the immediate neighborhood. The sanitary conditions of many of the infected premises were poor, though there were notable exceptions. Twenty-four of the cases occurred in railroad towns.

The disease was of a very virulent type last year, 29 per cent of the recorded cases being fatal. The common figures for mortality in this disease are about 8 to 12 per cent.

While the hottest months show the greater number of cases, most of the fatalities of 1911 occurred during the colder months, there being no deaths from April to September.

ASSIGNED CAUSES.

Among the assigned causes by attending physicians are mentioned: A boy of 12 years was attacked immediately after drinking freely of "birch beer and circus lemonade"; another boy who worked in a hot dry-house, was obliged frequently to expose himself to the cold November air.

No decided advance has been made, during the past year, in our knowledge of the exact cause of poliomyelitis or of methods of treating or preventing it, says Dr. Caverly. Flexner and Clark have confirmed, by recent animal experiments, the fact that the virus is present in the tonsils and pharyngeal mucus of human beings who succumb to the disease.

Hence the care that should be constantly exercised in cleansing the nasopharynx in cases of the disease

and in destroying all discharges from nose and throat.

Health officers and physicians should always remember that the disease is contagious and quarantinable.

In the summer, and especially during the presence of known cases in a community, physicians should be alert to the possibility of "abortive" cases. Children and young adults who present "grippy" or "rheumatic" symptoms, or who have any vague febrile attack should be regarded with suspicion.

WHAT INFANTILE PARALYSIS IS.

Dr. Charles W. Kidder, health officer of Woodstock, has prepared an article on infantile paralysis, its symptoms, results, etc., also giving some suggestions for its treatment or prevention. From this article the following is taken:

Acute anterior poliomyelitis, or infantile paralysis, is an acute contagious disease whose poison or virus has a particular predilection for the nervous tissues of the spinal cord and also sometimes affects the different parts of the brain.

The disease is essentially one of infancy, but adults are not exempt.

The person attacked first complains of feeling ill, has coated tongue, loss of appetite, and disturbances of digestion. The disease is then generally ushered in with a fever, with perhaps vomiting. One of the first prominent symptoms is an extreme and early prostration. The child may be absolutely helpless before there is any sign of paralysis. Profuse sweating is also noted in many of these cases, but this may be due to great debility.

Pain of varying intensity is generally present from the beginning of the disease and is due to inflammation of different nerves. Coldness of the surface of the body is quite characteristic and is noticed over the parts later to be paralyzed. There is often a rash which may be of different kinds, shapes and colors.

Paralysis generally occurs in two or three days, but may not be noticed for ten or twelve days, and usually attacks certain groups of muscles which are closely associated, such as one or both legs or the arm and a leg, but may be quite widespread over the body.

PREVENTION.

The early diagnosis of infantile paralysis is extremely important, though it is sometimes difficult. It is believed by many that the germ gains entrance to the body through the nose, so if a physician be called early it may be possible to spray the nose out with an antiseptic solution and so stop the disease before there is any sign of paralysis.

Infantile paralysis is communicable, but is very slightly contagious. It is very strictly quarantined in Vermont and in some other states, so every case should be reported to the health officer immediately.

The disease is communicable from one person to another, but it is very rarely directly communicable, (contagious) that is to say, by contact of a sick child with a healthy one. In the various epidemics there have been only a few instances indicating that this does occur.

The disease is communicated indirectly without any doubt through the medium of a carrier, which may be another human being or a lower animal, but probably in most instances is an insect.

There are few insects which are possible carriers, mosquitoes, flies, gnats and fleas. Of all these, the flea seems to be the one that could do the best.

It is, therefore, extremely important that children who live in infected regions should not be allowed to play with cats or dogs that are infested with fleas.

Dust also is said to be a carrier.

Therefore, in the prevention of infantile paralysis, the child should not only be kept healthy and well as possible, but should be kept as much as possible away from insect-bearing pets. This refers especially to infected towns, villages, etc.

Poliomyelitis occurs most often in warm weather, reaching its height in mid-summer, so through the warm months particular care should be taken to avoid the exposure of children to the disease. Their health

Seeing Vermont in 1806

President Timothy Dwight, of Yale College, was accustomed to come up through Vermont on various journeys. He wrote letters which were published in four volumes. From volume 2, letter 13, is taken the following, written in about 1806:

"Vermont has been settled entirely from other states of New England. The inhabitants have, of course, the New England character, with no other difference besides what is accidental. In the formation of colonies, those who are first inclined to emigrate, are usually such as have met with difficulties at home. These are commonly joined by persons, who, having large families, and small farms, are induced, for the sake of settling their children comfortably, to seek for new and cheaper lands. To both are always added the discontented, the enterprising, the ambitious, and the covetous.

Many of the first, and some of all these classes, are found in every new American country, within ten years after its settlement has commenced. From this period, kindred, friendship, and former neighborhood, prompt others to follow them. Others, still, are allured by the prospect of gain, presented in every new country to the sagacious, from the purchase and sale of lands; while not a small number are influenced by the brilliant stories, which everywhere are told concerning most tracts during the early progress of their settlement.

A considerable part of all those, who begin the cultivation of the wilderness, may be denominated foresters, or pioneers. The business of these persons is no other than to cut down trees, build log-houses, lay open forested grounds to cultivation, and prepare the way for those who come after them. These men cannot live in regular society. They are too idle; too talkative; too passionate; too prodigal; and too shiftless; to acquire either property or character. They are impatient of the restraints of law, religion, and morality; grumble about the taxes, by which rulers, ministers, and school-masters, are supported; and complain incessantly, as well as bitterly, of the extortions of mechanics, farmers, merchants, and physicians; to whom they are always indebted. At the same time, they are usually possessed, in their own view, of uncommon wisdom; understand medical science, politics, and religion, better than those who have studied them through life; and although they manage their own concerns worse than any other men, feel perfectly satisfied that they could manage those of the nation far better than the agents, to whom they are committed by the public. After displaying their own talents and worth; after censuring the weakness and wickedness of their superiors; after exposing the injustice of the community in neglecting to invest persons of such merit with public offices; in many an elegant harangue, uttered by many of a kitchen fire, in every blacksmith's shop, and in every corner of the streets; and finding all their efforts vain; they become at length discouraged; and under the pressure of poverty, the fear of a gaol, and the consciousness of public contempt, leave their native places, and betake themselves to the wilderness."

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should be closely looked after and the nose and throat kept in a healthy condition. Infantile paralysis is now prevalent in the United States and Canada, and 596 deaths from it in this country alone were reported last year. Moreover, it seems to be increasing quite rapidly in this country.

No case has ever been reported in the Ottawaquochee valley.

RESULTS.

In some few cases the person entirely recovers with no paralysis or weakness of any muscles, but these cases are rare and there is always a doubt as to the identity of the disease.

In a majority of cases there is paralysis and the patient is more or less of a cripple as long as he or she lives. It is estimated that 10,000 persons were made cripples by this disease in the United States in 1910. From two to five per cent of the cases are fatal.

Therefore, keep the children out of doors, with good food, in hygienic surroundings; keep the nose and throat in good condition, call a physician at the first sign of danger, and report at once to the health officer.

Paul Dwight Moody, son of the evangelist, Dwight L. Moody, was ordained and installed as pastor of the Congregational church at St. Johnsbury Tuesday.

A strike which will tie up practically every railroad in Mexico was ordered on Wednesday by A. D. Garretson of Cedar Rapids, president of the Order of Railway Conductors.

Methodist Appointments.

The 68th annual session of the Vermont Methodist conference at Newport closed with an anniversary meeting at the Congregational church Sunday evening, following which appointments of pastors for year ensuing were read.

Following are the appointments for the Montpelier district, Rev. Wilbur S. Smithers district superintendent:

Ascutneyville—Supplied by W. C. Johnson.
Athens—E. M. Rollins.
Barnard and East Barnard—H. E. Howard.

Bellows Falls—W. R. Davenport.
Belmont—A. W. Atwood.
Bethel—Supplied by J. Wesley Miller.

Bondville—Supplied by P. C. Thatcher.
Bradford—P. A. Smith.
Brattleboro—F. A. Wells.

Bethel Gilead—To be supplied.
Brownsville—Supplied by M. H. Ryan.

Chelsea—A. B. Enright.
Fairlee—To be supplied.
Gayville and Bethel Lympus—Supplied by Eldon Austin.

Hancock and Granville—Supplied by O. B. Wells.
Hartland and North Hartland—Supplied by W. F. Hill.

Jacksonville—To be supplied.
Landgrove—R. H. Moore.
Ludlow—Supplied by J. C. Hayes.

Montpelier—William Shaw.
Northfield and Northfield Falls—A. H. Webb.
North Thetford—Supplied by A. B. Jonson.

Perkinsville—Supplied by L. I. Holway.

Pittsfield and Stockbridge—J. C. Hazelton.

Proctorville—A. J. Hough.
Putney—To be supplied.

Randolph—To be supplied.
Randolph Center—H. C. Hoyt.
Rochester—O. B. Wells.

South Londonderry—To be supplied.
South Reading—Supplied by L. I. Holway.

South Royalton—E. L. M. Barnes.
South Tunbridge—Supplied by E. L. M. Barnes.

Springfield—Rev. E. W. Sharpe.
Thetford Center—To be supplied.
Union Village—A. B. Jonson.

Wardsboro—Supplied by Allen Charlton.
West Berlin—Supplied by G. O. Howard.

West Fairlee—To be supplied.
Weston—Supplied by R. H. Moore.

White River Junction—S. H. Smith.
Willer—T. B. L. Sellar.

Williamsville and East Dover—Supplied by O. E. Newton.
Windsor—W. C. Johnson.

Woodstock—F. T. Clark.
Worcester—Supplied by G. S. Smith.

Married 50 Years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace W. Burke, who were married in Hartland in 1862, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage at their home in South Royalton, April 6. Two of their four children are living—W. W. Burke, Jr., and Mrs. E. J. Hutchinson of Woodstock.

A chicken-pie dinner was served and the reunion was an enjoyable one for all.

Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Hutchinson and Howard Maxham of Woodstock, and Ernest Maxham and daughter of White River Junction.

WILD HOPI INDIANS

Transformation at the Carlisle School for Savages.

Red Men Captured by Regulars Have Become Civilized—World's Best Long Distance Runner Is Among Them.

Carlisle, Pa.—That a misunderstanding of the white man's motives has been one of the causes of the Indian's backwardness in adopting civilized methods and of his fighting education is being demonstrated here at the government Indian school, where 13 members of the Hopi nation, sun-worshippers and pagans, who came here five years ago virtually as prisoners of war, are now preparing to go back to their people and spread the doctrine of the new life, which they have gladly accepted.

A half-dozen years ago the Hopi nation was causing considerable trouble in Arizona. Intertribe strife had divided the tribes and a troop of United States cavalry was sent post haste to the Kaibab canyon region to restore peace. After pow-wows and conferences, in which the Indian leaders sternly refused to adopt the white man's education, twelve of the most obstinate "stand-patters" were taken as prisoners and sent from the Mohave agency, in Arizona, to the Carlisle Indian school. The party arrived here January 26, 1907. All of these Indians were members of the Oraibi band of the Hopi nation. Among them were several priests and head men of the tribe.

When these savages arrived at the Carlisle school they would have nothing to do with any of the other students, and began to live their lives apart. In less than ten days one of the Hopis indicated by gestures that he would like to have his hair cut like the other students, and on the same day another Hopi was discovered snipping off his own locks with a hunting knife.

From the moment the Hopis showed their first interest in education they advanced rapidly and became eager in their desire to learn more. They entered the lowest grades in the class rooms, but as they were attentive to their studies, were kindly disposed to their teachers, and caused not the slightest trouble, they climbed steadily to the top of their classes. All were assigned to devote some portion of their time to vocational training, some entering the blacksmith shops or carpenter shops, and Lewis Tewanima, the crack marathon runner, is developing into an expert tailor.

"When these Hopi boys return home this summer they will be leaders among their people and fight for both education and righteousness. Now all speak English, all read and write; they are courteous and are gentlemen. They have kept in continual touch with their people, and already their influence has been noticeable in the Hopi country."

Lewis Tewanima, one of these same savages five years ago, is today the greatest long-distance runner in the world, and two years ago, while representing America at the Olympic games in Paris, won the main Marathon event. He will represent this country at the next Olympic games in Washington. Tewanima has also achieved a national reputation as a long-distance runner.

Kettle on Stove 2,000 Years. Naples—Excavators found a copper boiler on a stove in the ruins of Pompeii. There was still some water in the vessel and scientists say it had been there ever since the eruption 2,000 years ago.

Aviators Flee From Rebels. New Orleans.—Matilda Moisant and her squad of fliers, have arrived here, after experiencing exciting times in Mexico. They were billed to give exhibitions in Chihuahua, but fled from the country when rebels attempted to capture their fleet of aeroplanes for use in the war.

Airship Hangs Man. Berlin.—Karl Rogers was hanged when a guide rope from the airship Paravel wrapped about his neck and carried him over 40 feet in the air.

BOULDERS IN CUZCO'S WALL

Rocks as Large as Houses Are Found in the Ruins of the Palaces of the Incas.

Cuzco.—On the left was a huge wall, part of the line of outer fortifications. On the right a steep bank led down to the rushing stream, which here and there was crossed by an aqueduct and bridges of masonry, solid but very graceful.

An hour's climb brought us to a fairly level plain at the top of the hill. Between us and the valley lay the



Copyright, Underwood & Underwood, N. Y. Ruins of Great Wall at Cuzco.

fortress, its first line of defence rising on our left. Very large and strong walls we had already seen, but they were pyramids compared to the one which now confronted us. To form it boulders of granite and of limestone, some of them as large as a house, had been brought together. No matter how large they were, however, their edges were as carefully trimmed and fitted as bricks in a house. How these masses of rock were ever brought to where they are, raised in position, no one can say. All round the mount the great wall runs, forming a half-circle, ending toward the town. There are but few entrances through it, and these are most carefully guarded by flanking masonry.

I have seen the Great Wall of China, the pyramids and temples of Egypt, the fortresses of Japan, and the ruins of Babel, but none of them are more wonderful than this cyclopean structure. Within this first line of fortifications were two others, which, if not quite as imposing, still were of a height and strength amply sufficient to keep at bay any army not provided with gunpowder.

Between them the ground was level, an apparently for a moat. If this supposition is correct, the course of the little stream along which we had ridden must have been diverted far back in the hills, for certainly there was no other water obtainable in volume large enough.

Inside the lines was a large plain formed by grading the top of the hill. On the edge of this and overlooking the valley rose the gigantic crucifix that is so plainly visible from Cuzco and beyond. The view is simply magnificent. The city with its narrow streets and numerous churches lay mapped before us. Beyond it the rich valley and in the distance the snows of Blancapala.—S. S. Howland, in Scribner's Magazine.

"GHOST" SCARES OFF THIEF

Youngstown, O., Woman in Night gown Appears at Window and Burglar Runs.

Youngstown, O.—Mrs. Peter Truog failed to answer a doorbell, owing to the fact that she was ill in bed. A crack of broken glass caused her to arise and investigate.

As she raised the window shade, a burglar's hand was reaching through the broken window to unfasten the catch. The crook uttered a cry of horror as he saw the woman in her night dress, evidently mistaking her for a ghost.

Mrs. Truog, as frightened as the burglar, managed to call the police after she had regained her composure.

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